



## **STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (SACRE)**

**THURSDAY, 17 NOVEMBER 2022**

**2.00 pm PRIORY, ROOM 2F CENTRE BLOCK, COUNTY HALL - COUNTY HALL, LEWES**

### MEMBERSHIP

Cllr Roy Galley	Mr Peter White	Ms Anna Flood
Cllr Colin Belsey	Mrs Rosemary Roberts	Mr Osman Whole
Cllr Trevor Webb	Dr Brenda Vance	Mrs Laura Cooper
Cllr Abul Azad	Dr Norman Williamson	Mr Tim Telford
Mr Barry Blakelock	Rev Jeremy Sykes	Mrs Pamela Hartog
Claire Ramalli (Adviser)	Mr Jon Gilbert	Ms Kirsty Eydmann
Claire Rivers (Primary)	Ms Elizabeth Coleman	Julie Stevens (Clerk)

### AGENDA

1. Declaration of conflicts of Interests - Cllr Galley
2. Welcome & apologies
3. Minutes of the previous meeting (16th June 2022) & matters arising
4. My World, My Faith – Introduced by Cllr Belsey
5. Update from Network meetings, CPD & Conferences
  - Subject developments – Claire Ramalli
  - Secondary – Sam Keddie/Claire Ramalli
  - Primary – Claire Rivers/Claire Ramalli
  - Special – Kirsty Eydmann/Barry Blakelock
6. Self-evaluation toolkit - Cllr Galley/Barry Blakelock
7. Development Plan - Barry Blakelock
8. Budget update/Five-Year Budget Plan - Barry Blakelock
9. Equality, Diversity & Inclusion (Standing Item) - Cllr Galley
10. Any other business

Next meeting: Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2023

PHILIP BAKER  
Assistant Chief Executive  
County Hall, St Anne's Crescent  
LEWES BN7 1UE

9 November 2022

Contact Julie Stevens, Support Officer to Directors and Members,  
01273 336672  
Email: [Julie.Stevens@eastsussex.gov.uk](mailto:Julie.Stevens@eastsussex.gov.uk)

# Agenda Item 3

## East Sussex SACRE

### Notes of the meeting

**Date:** Thursday 16 June 2022  
**Venue:** Centre 2F / Microsoft Teams  
**Chairman:** Councillor Roy Galley  
**Clerk:** Julie Stevens  
**SACRE members present:** Cllr Roy Galley, Cllr Colin Belsey, Cllr Azad, Peter White (PW), Rosemary Roberts (RR), Dr Brenda Vance, Liz Coleman (EC), Barry Blakelock (BB), Claire Rivers (CRi), Kirsty Eydmann (KE), Osman Whole

**Also present:** Julie Stevens (JS) (Clerk), Carrie Beech (CB), Claire Ramalli (CRa)

**Apologies:** Dr Norman Williamson, Rev Jeremy Sykes, Cllr Murphy

Item	Title	Action
<b>1</b>	<b>Welcome/ Introductions &amp; Apologies</b>	
1.1	Cllr Galley welcomed everyone present at the meeting. A special welcome to new members Cllr Azad, Kirsty Eydmann and Iman Osman Whole.  Apologies were noted by the Clerk.	
1.2	There were no declarations of conflicts of interest.	
<b>2</b>	<b>Minutes of meeting 16 March 2022</b>	
2.1	The minutes of the last meeting were agreed as accurate.	
2.2	Cllr Azad referred to point 10.1 regarding special schools engaging with the Agreed Syllabus and questioned the background to this issue. Kirsty Eydmann has now become a member of SACRE from the Special Schools sector and will help start the journey with getting Special Schools on board.	
2.3	CB has prepared a paper to be taken to the next Special HT's meeting on 3 October. KE will attend to present the paper. This will be circulated to the SACRE members for information.	<b>Clerk</b>
2.4	Feedback from the meeting with Special HTs will be discussed at the next SACRE meeting. Clerk add this item to the agenda.	<b>Clerk</b>
2.5	Cllr Azad referred to point 11.3 referring to guest speakers from different faiths at each SACRE meeting; Iman Osman Whole will speak at the March meeting. Cllr Belsey will invite someone to speak at the November meeting. It was agreed 20 minutes would be sufficient for each speaker as an opportunity for members to better understand the demographic of East Sussex as a whole.	<b>Cllr B</b>
2.6	PW referred to point 2.4 regarding the voting system for SACRE. It was clarified that one member of a group cannot veto a decision, but one group can veto a decision. Cllr Galley and CB will check that the current constitution is accurate.	<b>Cllr B CB</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>RE Today support plan &amp; Budget update</b>	
3.1	CB referred to the report circulated prior to the meeting.	
3.2	<u>Partnership with RE Today</u>	

	<p>(i) Their second invoice was less than anticipated, however the St Mark's money held by Polegate is slightly less, the net result means we have just over £1k in the budget.</p> <p>(ii) Suggested action to address this - look at the possibility of re-charging schools for CPD and the annual conference for middle leaders. If we decided to hold a pupil conference, we would need to discuss where the budget would come from.</p> <p>(iii) Next year there are no licensing costs with RE Today, just £5,000 for Partnership working. CB suggested we try to keep the £15,000 funding to enable SACRE to capitalise on the work done so far.</p>	
<p><b>3.3</b></p>	<p><u>Comments</u></p> <p>(i) Cllr Galley stated that we should try to continue supplying materials to schools at no cost and that we should bid for the funding.</p> <p>(ii) Cllr Galley suggested the possibility of a pupil conference whilst recognising the difficulty in funding this</p> <p>(iii) RR asked if there are any funding pathways we can pursue?</p> <p>(iv) CB suggested that NASACRE may know of opportunities to bid for pots of money. It may be worth looking at the area groups for any pots of money at a local level to support things.</p> <p>(v) Cllr Belsey suggested the elected members on SACRE put forward a strong case to colleagues to keep the extra funding within the SACRE budget, this will cover the ongoing Partnership working with RE Today that we are committed to for 3 years.</p> <p>(vi) Cllr Galley asked CB to prepare a summary for what the 2023/24 budget may require, to include commitments to RE Today.</p> <p>(vii) CRi has close contacts around fund raising and will ask for information re funding pots available. Follow up at next meeting.</p> <p>(viii) CRa will contact Cullum St Gabriel and NATRE re any available funding.</p>	<p>Cllrs</p> <p>CB</p> <p>CRi CRa</p>
<p><b>4</b></p>	<p><b>Monitoring &amp; Evaluation - strategy</b></p> <p><b>4.1</b> BB referred to the paper circulated outlining key priorities for SACRE in terms of monitoring and evaluation over the next academic year.</p> <p><b>4.2</b> <u>Proposal</u> There is an opportunity for SACRE to work with schools and networks to embed the new Agreed Syllabus across the Local Authority, identify schools with the capacity to give back into the system and those that would benefit from additional input. This process can be managed operationally through the primary and secondary networks.</p> <p><b>4.3</b> SACRE's monitoring activities should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support universal adoption of the Agreed Syllabus</li> <li>• Recognise and celebrate good practice in delivery of the new Agreed Syllabus.</li> <li>• Facilitate school-to-school support through the networks.</li> </ul> <p><b>4.4</b> Focus of monitoring activities for the next academic year should be engagement. Identify:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Which schools engaged with the training (and which did not)?</li> <li>• Have those schools gone on to adopt the Agreed Syllabus for September 2022?</li> <li>• Which schools can we identify as 'beacons' - and able to offer support?</li> <li>• Which schools need support with delivery of the agreed syllabus?</li> </ul>	

<p>4.5</p> <p>4.6</p> <p>4.7</p> <p>4.8</p> <p>4.9</p> <p>4.10</p> <p>4.11</p> <p>4.12</p>	<p>The majority of academies use the Agreed Syllabus and most had engaged with us on the roll out. All but three academies attended the training. We will need to clarify how this has converted into delivery.</p> <p>Maintain links with the special schools.</p> <p><u>School Visits</u> School visits should resume in the new academic year. SACRE members should visit schools by invitation as arranged through networks.</p> <p><u>Purpose of a school visit</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For schools to become more aware of the positive role of SACRE and how it can be a real source of support.</li> <li>• For SACRE members to receive information, develop an understanding of the new Agreed Syllabus in delivery and listen to the needs of schools.</li> <li>• For network leads to strengthen school-to-school support by creating a positive and open professional network based on self-evaluation.</li> </ul> <p>CB suggested that we identify schools who would like a visit from SACRE, and we go in pairs and stress we are there to gather information on what is going on in the school and any challenges they face.</p> <p>BB agreed to pull together some questions to be used on the visits.</p> <p>Contact Julie with suggested schools for visits.</p> <p><u>SACRE REport Card 2022/23</u> BB asked if this was something that SACRE want to pursue? SACRE agreed that this is something they would like to take forward and Cllr Belsey suggested it was sent to local MP's.</p> <p><u>Next steps:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) Review launch of the Agreed Syllabus including conversion from training to delivery (the position of schools in the local authority).</li> <li>(ii) Identify 'beacons' and schools that may benefit from support, through the networks.</li> <li>(iii) Arrange for school visits to resume by invitation, through the networks.</li> <li>(iv) Review the Annual Survey.</li> <li>(v) Begin to construct a report card and review the activities required to inform the reporting process.</li> </ol> <p>Cllr Galley to write to those staff who have been particularly supportive in the launch of the new Agreed Syllabus. This reinforces the role of SACRE. CRa and CRi to let Cllr Galley know details.</p> <p>SACRE agreed the next steps.</p>	<p></p> <p></p> <p></p> <p></p> <p>BB</p> <p>CRa/ CRi/JG</p> <p></p> <p>Cllr Galley</p>
<p>5</p> <p>5.1</p>	<p><b>Update from Network meetings</b></p> <p><u>Secondary</u> CRa updated the meeting on the latest Hub meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Focus on KS4 curriculum</li> <li>- Hub contacts collated</li> <li>- Handover to Sam Keddie</li> </ul>	<p></p>

5.2	CB advised that there has been interest from outside of the county to access core units of work in the Agreed Syllabus. Ideas are to ask the marketing team at ESCC to put these units into a publication and charge for this information or alternatively explore further a mechanism to get KS4 core curriculum published. Another option is to allow them to publish the units on the RE Today website. CB and CRa to look at a plan for taking this forward.	CB/CRa
5.3	<u>Primary</u> CRi confirmed that the network meetings continue to be very successful with a good sense of trust within the group.	
6	<b>Collective Worship - Guidance document</b>	
6.1	CRa shared some slides with the meeting. It was agreed that it would be useful for schools to have a resource to see what schools are providing in their collective worship.	
6.2	Slides to be circulated to SACRE.	Clerk
6.3	CRa to revise and update the Determination Policy.	CRa
7	<b>NASACRE Self-evaluation tool / Conference feedback</b>	
7.1	The self-evaluation tool is quite a detailed document. Cllr Galley suggested setting up a small working party to work through the document and put together a report for SACRE in November.	
7.2	CRa shared some slides of self-evaluation training attended.	
7.3	The following SACRE members volunteered to be part of the working party: Cllr Galley Barry Blakelock Claire Ramalli Rosemary Roberts Colin Belsey Claire Rivers Laura Cooper	
7.4	The clerk will contact these members and set up a meeting.	Clerk
7.5	Cllr Galley and Peter White attended the on-line conference. It was a positive day with lots of discussion on World Views.	
8	<b>Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion (Standing item)</b>	
8.1	It was noted that Cllr Azad and Osman Whole joining SACRE to represent the Muslim community is very positive progress.	
9	<b>Any Other Business</b>	
9.1	CB presented a paper 'Understanding Roles and Responsibilities'. Cllr Galley explained that CB will be leaving her role on SACRE at the end of the summer term and BB will be taking over this role. Sam Keddie and Claire Rivers will lead the Network meetings. Claire Ramalli will be the specialist adviser to SACRE.	

<b>9.2</b>	Cllr Galley expressed thanks to Dr Brenda Vance as this was her last meeting and thanked her on behalf of the East Sussex SACRE for 20 years of service.	
	<b>Date of next meeting: 17 November 2022 at 2.00pm</b> <b>Venue: County Hall &amp; MS Teams</b>	

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# SACRE DEVELOPMENT PLAN September 2021 – July 2023

Updated March 2022

1 Monitor standards and provision of RE in East Sussex schools							
	Action points	Lead	Timescale	Success criteria	R	A	G
1.1	<p>Through the network meetings for Primary and Secondary Schools develop a simple questionnaire (survey monkey or email) to use in school visits and network meetings to inform the judgement of provision in East Sussex and planning for support.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Collate all contact details for RE leads in all schools</li> <li>Schools Group to devise the questionnaire</li> <li>Network meetings to issue and discuss questionnaire and collate responses</li> </ul>	RE lead / Clerk	Throughout the year linked to network meetings and visits	<p>Schools are compliant in meeting statutory requirements for the teaching of RE.</p> <p>SACRE has an improved understanding of the provision for RE teaching in schools.</p>			
1.2	<p>Establish an accountability framework that allows for a review of outcomes as part of the process.</p> <p>Due to Covid19 there will be no local and national comparisons for student outcomes from the last two academic years.</p>	RE advisor / Clerk	June 2022	<p>Increasing numbers of entries for GCSE RE short and full courses in more schools.</p> <p>% achieving grades 4+ and 5+ are at least in line with national average for the year.</p>			
1.3	<p>School visits planned to share good practice and take feedback from schools to inform the work of SACRE.</p> <p>Widen the number of SACRE members who undertake school visits. This can include virtual visits and schools focus group opportunities.</p>	RE lead / SACRE members	June 2022	<p>Programme of visits/online meeting opportunities planned and agreed at SACRE board.</p> <p>Visit reports evaluated to identify support needs and actions for schools and SACRE</p>			

1.4	Links to NASACRE and to SE SACRE Group to share and learn from practice in other authorities – RG on NASACRE and can feedback, CR engaging with SE SACRE Group as Adviser to SACRE and can feedback.	Chair of SACRE	Ongoing	Chair and SACRE Adviser reports back to SACRE 3 times a year.  Learning identified and used to inform practice in East Sussex.			
1.5	Review a cross section of school websites to ensure that the RE curriculum is available and to identify any questions or concerns that SACRE might have.  These may be passed to the Schools Group to follow up or for SACRE visits.	SACRE members, Chairman, RE Lead, Clerk	January to July 2022	Improved standards of RE and pupil progress in East Sussex schools.  All schools meeting statutory requirements.			

<b>2 Support the quality of RE teaching and learning in all schools</b>							
	<b>Action points</b>	<b>Lead</b>	<b>Timescale</b>	<b>Success criteria</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>G</b>
2.1	Support the work of the RE Networks for Primary and Secondary Schools and the role of the Schools Working Group to work with schools to help improve the quality of teaching and learning in RE.  Networks and Schools Group to report back on progress to SACRE.	Barry Blakelock	ongoing	Effective school to school support established.  Increased number of SLEs for RE.  Examples of improved quality of teaching and learning.			
2.2	Support the delivery of professional development for schools and governing bodies working in partnership with national organisations and experts:  a. Network meetings for RE subject leaders in primary and secondary schools	Claire Ramalli for Secondary Claire Rivers Primary	3 times a year	60% of schools engage in the network meetings.  30% of schools attend the annual conferences.  100% of evaluations from CPD events are good and better.			

	<p>b. Professional development programme planned according to identified support needs and to launch and support the new Agreed Syllabus</p> <p>c. Conference for RE Subject leaders planned</p> <p>d. Secondary conference as part of network group</p> <p>e. Training to be offered to governing bodies</p>	<p>RE lead, Chair, LA representative and Clerk Claire Rivers Claire Ramalli</p> <p>Carrie Beech/Governor Services</p>	<p>Annual programme</p> <p>Nov 21 and Feb 22</p>	<p>Take up for CPD increases.</p> <p>Governing Boards are aware of statutory position of RE and are able to challenge their schools where they have concerns.</p>			
2.3	<p>Further develop resources to support high quality teaching and learning in RE.</p> <p>This will be through signposting national resources and websites and sharing good practice.</p>	RE lead and Schools Group	ongoing	<p>Examples of good practice and a range of resource materials shared with schools and feedback reported to SACRE.</p> <p>Profile of RE teaching and resources raised through social media platforms.</p>			

<b>3</b>	<b>Support the provision of collective worship and SMSC</b>						
	<b>Action points</b>	<b>Lead</b>	<b>Timescale</b>	<b>Success criteria</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>G</b>
3.1	Monitor provision of collective worship through questionnaires and school visits	RE lead / SACRE members	Ongoing	All East Sussex schools meeting statutory requirements for Collective Worship.			

3.2	Develop a local policy for determination in relation to acts of collective worship. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review examples of other SACRE Determination policies</li> <li>Develop and consult on an ES policy</li> <li>Publish the ES Determination Policy on the website</li> </ul>	CRA and CB	June 22	Determination policy published and understood by schools.			
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4 Improve effectiveness of role of SACRE							
	Action points	Lead	Timescale	Success criteria	R	A	G
4.1	Training and induction in place for SACRE members and annually reviewed.	SACRE support	Annually	All SACRE members fully aware of their roles and responsibilities			
4.2	Improve SACRE members' knowledge and understanding of the education context and the strengths and challenges facing East Sussex schools in relation to RE and collective worship.	RE lead, Chair of SACRE, LA Representative and Clerk	Annually	All SACRE members aware of the wider school context and specific performance in RE, Collective Worship and pupils' SMSC			
4.3	Increase the profile of SACRE in the community: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Attend governor forums</li> <li>Photos of SACRE members on website</li> <li>Regular newsletters/communication to schools</li> <li>Pupil conference and events promoted by SACRE</li> </ul>	All SACRE members	Ongoing	All East Sussex schools and local and wider community aware of the role of SACRE			
4.4	Succession planning for SACRE – review membership and ensure full representation across all groups.  Bring other members on board as identified to increase the expertise and support for the work of SACRE.	All SACRE members	Ongoing	SACRE skill set continues to develop and future members supported to engage with SACRE			

4.7	Annual report to Scrutiny Committee	RE lead / LA Representative, clerk and Chair of SACRE	March 2022	ESCC fully aware of effectiveness of RE teaching and learning and responsibilities of SACRE				

<b>5</b>	<b>Review East Sussex local agreed syllabus for RE</b>						
	<b>Action points</b>	<b>Lead</b>	<b>Timescale</b>	<b>Success criteria</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>G</b>
5.1	<p>Review of Local Agreed Syllabus in the light of national developments and feedback from schools.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SACRE to decide on the process for reviewing the syllabus</li> <li>Working group to look at the Agreed Syllabus and gain feedback from schools</li> <li>Agreed Syllabus Conference – to sign off the syllabus</li> <li>Plan launch event and ongoing support for the implementation of the new syllabus for all schools</li> <li>Promote engagement from all schools in the new syllabus</li> </ul>	RE lead, Schools Group and SACRE	<p>Sept 2021</p> <p>Feb 2021</p> <p>Jan 2022</p> <p>March 2022 onwards</p> <p>Jan 2022 onwards</p>	Revised Agreed Syllabus published in autumn 2022 is fit for purpose and responds to national developments and guidance.			

5.2	<p>Monitor national developments and changes which will impact SACRE's views of syllabus development. For example, the National Council for RE Report 2018, Theos Think Piece, research and literary reviews, Ofsted inspection framework.</p> <p>Consider the place of world views in RE and ensure that the new syllabus reflects and enables opportunities for discussion of world views.</p> <p>National changes to be brought to SACRE meetings for discussion and agreement on actions</p>	RE lead and SACRE	Ongoing	<p>SACRE is aware of changes which are made at a national level.</p> <p>SACRE ensure that schools are fully aware of National initiatives and developments</p> <p>SACRE ensures that funding is in place to support schools with any key national initiatives</p>			
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